

REMARKS

This is in response to the office action mailed June 11, 2004. Please find enclosed a Petition for a one month extension of time to file this response, together with the relevant fee.

Claims 1 to 20 are in this application. In this response, claims 1, 17 and 20 have been amended to incorporate material relating to one important embodiment of the invention. Based on the amendments as well as the brief discussion below, favorable reconsideration and allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-9, 11, 12, 15-17 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Zeitman. This constitutes the principal rejection on the merits of the claims, and Zeitman is the reference central to all of the rejections by the Examiner.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zeitman and further in view of Racunas. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zeitman and further in view of DeLorme. Claims 13 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zeitman and further in view of Yoshida. Claims 14 and 18 are

rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zeitman and further in view of Levergood.

Zeitman is a somewhat broad patent for a method for parking reporting. An important aspect of Zeitman relates to its use in municipality parking lots and the presence of a law enforcement interface for monitoring authorized use of the parking facility. Zeitman lacks the depth of disclosure when compared to the present application. The invention in the present application has significant commercial and business applications. It is able to substantially reduce labor intensive management and control steps and is particularly useful for use by landlords and tenants of commercial office buildings to manage, control and update in real time changes which are an ongoing feature of such parking facilities.

As one example only, the parking arrangements in effect between a landlord and tenant are usually governed in the lease agreement between the parties. Such a lease agreement will set out the number of spaces available to a tenant (sometimes based on the number of square feet leased by the tenant), the costs of the spaces, discounts available and the like. One aspect or embodiment of the present invention therefore allows for the method and apparatus of the invention to check the terms of a

lease agreement in place between and landlord and tenant and to confirm that any parking reservation, including the number of such spaces and the costs therefor, is in conformance with the terms of a lease agreement between the parties.

In this response, the independent claims 1, 17 and 20 have been amended to recite a feature of an important aspect of the invention. (Note that the invention has many important features and the fact that Applicant is claiming one only in the present claims should not preclude Applicant from focusing on other features of the invention in this or other related applications.) In the amended claims, the method is recited as including the step of referencing a lease agreement between the parties to ensure that the parking reservation is in conformance with the terms of the lease. Clearly, Zeitman, as well as the other references cited by the Examiner, fails to describe or even suggest such a feature.

In view of the claims amendments as well as the discussion above, reconsideration of the claims and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at telephone number (818)710-2788 should there be any questions at

this time.

Please acknowledge receipt hereof by stamping and returning  
the enclosed postcard.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosed: Petition for extension  
Return postcard

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 11, 2004.



Colin P. Abrahams